

CABINET

MONDAY, 1 JULY 2019

DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Cabinet held on Monday, 1 July 2019. Decisions made by the Cabinet will be subject to call-in. Recommendations made to the Council are not subject to call-in. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Ian Senior.

1. **COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER OF THE TREE, STAPLEFORD**

Cabinet agreed not to progress The Tree Community Limited's request for the Council to use compulsory purchase powers in relation to the acquisition of The Tree, 9 Bar Lane, Stapleford.

Other Options: To recommend to Council that a Compulsory Purchase Order be made under Section 226(1)(b) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Reason For Decision: The decision was made for the reasons set out in the confidential report from the Director for Health and Environmental Services following consideration of independent professional opinion given to the Council. Members were not satisfied that the Council could demonstrate best value which it must do as a public body. Cabinet noted that the property owner had submitted a planning application for development of the site to the Local Planning Authority and, until this had been determined, it considered that the test of 'last resort', essential to pursuing a compulsory purchase order, had not been met.

2. **STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Cabinet agreed

- (a) to adopt the Statement of Community Involvement (2019) for Greater Cambridge, prepared jointly with Cambridge City Council; and
- (b) that the Joint Director of Planning and Economic Development is granted delegated authority, in liaison with the Lead Cabinet Member for Planning, to make any editing changes identified prior to publication.

Other Options Considered: Members may decide to:

- Adopt the Statement of Community Involvement without amendments;
- Adopt the Statement of Community Involvement with amendments; or
- Not agree to adopt the Statement of Community Involvement.

Reason For Decision: This report presents the SCI for adoption following the conclusion of the public consultation period. Whilst there is no mandatory requirement for consultation on a draft SCI, Cabinet agreed at the meeting of 9th January 2019, that the draft SCI should be published for six weeks to ensure that the needs and aspirations of communities and stakeholders are understood and taken into account in finalising the document. The consultation on the draft SCI commenced on Monday 11 February and concluded on Monday 25 March 2019.

There was a total of 12 representations received during the consultation period and they

have been considered when preparing the SCI attached at Appendix 2. Of the 12 representations received, seven were objections, four were comments/no comments and one was support. These are set out in further detail in the Consultation Statement (attached at Appendix 2).

3. GREATER CAMBRIDGE SUSTAINABLE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

Cabinet

- a) Agreed the content of the Draft Greater Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD (Appendix A);
- b) Approved the draft SPD for public consultation in accordance with Regulation 13 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulation 2012 for the period between the 15th July to the 23rd September 2019;
- c) Approved the consultation arrangements set out in paragraphs 12 and 13 of the report;
- d) Delegated authority to the Joint Director of Planning and Economic Development in liaison with the Lead Cabinet Member for Planning, to agree the Statement of Consultation and draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and draft Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) Screenings Reports for consultation alongside the draft SPD;
- e) Delegated authority to the Joint Director of Planning and Economic Development in liaison with the Lead Cabinet Member for Planning to make editorial changes to the Draft Greater Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD and supporting documents prior to the commencement of the consultation period regarding minor amendments and factual updates.

Other Options Considered: None specified

Reason For Decision: Following adoption of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan in September 2018, further guidance is required on the implementation of policies related to sustainable design and construction, biodiversity and environmental health. This is to ensure that the policies in the Local Plan are correctly implemented and that appropriate evidence of compliance is submitted with planning applications. It is now recommended that the draft Greater Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction SPD is published for consultation.

4. ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT PLANNING AND TRANSPORT ADVISORY GROUP

Cabinet

- (c) noted information regarding the inception of the Local Plan; and;
- (d) agreed the terms of reference for the proposed Joint Planning & Transport Advisory Group; and
- (e) agreed that South Cambridgeshire representation on the Joint Planning & Transport Advisory Group should comprise two nominations from the Liberal Democrat group and one from the Conservative group.

Other Options Considered: Cabinet may decide to:

- agree the terms of reference for the proposed Joint Planning & Transport Advisory Group without amendments;
- agree the terms of reference for the proposed Joint Planning & Transport Advisory Group with amendments.

Reason For Decision: Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council are committed to producing a joint Local Plan, commencing in 2019. As agreed at 3 October 2018 Cabinet as part of agreeing the Local Development Scheme 2018, the proposed approach to governance is to use separate democratic processes to agree both plans, informed by a joint member advisory group. Agreeing the proposed terms of reference for this group will enable the advisory group to be set up. This paper and draft terms of reference is being considered by Cambridge City Council Planning & Transport Scrutiny Committee on 16th July. Cambridgeshire County Council Economy & Environment Committee will consider the invitation to participate in the Advisory Group on 11th July.

5. **A428 PREFERRED ROUTE BLACK CAT TO CAXTON GIBBET CONSULTATION RESPONSE**

Cabinet

- (f) Discussed and agree broad points to make in response to the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Preferred Route consultation; and
- (g) Agreed to delegate the wording of the final joint response and any individual response to the consultation to the Strategy and Economy Manager, in consultation with the Deputy Leader (Statutory) of South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Other Options Considered: Cabinet may decide to:

- Agree the high-level response points without amendment or addition, delegating the wording of the final response to the consultation to the Strategy and Economy Manager, in consultation with the Deputy Leader of South Cambridgeshire District Council.
- Agree the high-level response points with amendments and/or additions, delegating the wording of the final response to the consultation to the Strategy and Economy Manager, in consultation with the Deputy Leader of South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Reason For Decision: Improvements to the A428 are important for the delivery of the growth agenda, the economy, and to improve journey times and road safety for the travelling public, although it is not required to enable delivery of any allocations identified in the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018. The road has an impact on the environment and economy of the district. The Preferred Route passes through parts of the district. This makes the Council a statutory consultee in the consultation process. It is therefore the responsibility of the Council to ensure it is fully involved/engaged in the various stages of the project to ensure the interests of the district and those of residents affected by the development are robustly represented. The timings of this current consultation are short and don't fit well with the South Cambridgeshire committee cycle. This report therefore sets out broad response points for discussion, to be refined following the meeting, with final sign-off by the Joint Director of Planning & Economic Development in consultation with the Deputy Leader. Discussion with neighbouring authorities suggests that most concerns with the consultation are shared, and that there is potential to include South Cambridgeshire's comments within a joint response.

6. CAMBRIDGESHIRE HOME IMPROVEMENT AGENCY (CHIA) SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT

Cabinet approved the renewal of the Cambridgeshire Home Improvement Agency shared service agreement for a further three years up to 31st March 2022 (Appendix A).

Other Options Considered: Option A: To approve the renewal of the Cambridgeshire Home Improvement Agency shared service agreement for a further three years up to 31st March 2022 (Appendix A).

Reasons for Approval –The shared service arrangement is achieving the objectives of the CHIA (see point 10 above) and continues to improve its service to residents. At the same time the General Fund no longer subsidises the revenue cost of the service.

Option B: To reject the renewal of the CHIA shared service agreement.

Reasons for Refusal – All of the benefits of the shared service would be lost if the service were to be brought back in house. Whilst the performance of the shared service continues to improve there is no rationale for seeking to outsource the work.

Reason For Decision: The Cambridgeshire Home Improvement Agency is achieving the objectives of the shared Home Improvement Agency (see point 10 below), whilst continuing on a journey of improvement. Without the shared Home Improvement Agency, the Council would offer a lesser service providing grants but applicants would have to submit their own applications, appoint contractors and oversee works themselves. The one-to-one support provided by the Agency in terms of signposting to relevant organisations, providing advice, project managing adaptations/repairs and working with health and social care partners would also be lost. The Cambridgeshire Home Improvement Agency is a key organisation strategically placed to help deliver on the Better Care Fund objectives.

7. SHARED SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT

Cabinet

- (a) **Noted the 3C Shared Services Annual Report attached at Appendix A;**
- (b) **Noted the Greater Cambridge Shared Services Annual Report attached at Appendix B;**
- (c) **Agreed that relevant Officers engage in discussions with Cambridge City Council and Huntingdonshire District Council regarding the potential extension of the original Shared Services Agreement for Legal, Building Control and ICT services beyond the expiry date of 30 September 2020;**
- (d) **(d) Agreed, as part of the discussions identified in 3(c) above, that prompt attention be given to the outstanding milestones and actions identified in the original Shared Services Partnership Agreement and to ensuring that the quality standards, performance levels and benefits from the integrated services are defined, understood, clearly documented and effectively monitored and measured; and**
- (e) **Agreed to consider the establishment of a joint Scrutiny and Overview Committee with Cambridge City Council and Huntingdonshire District**

Council as part of ongoing negotiations.

Other Options Considered: The Annual Reports are provided to Cabinet for information. Cabinet is invited to consider and note the content of these reports but may request further information or clarification if helpful in that deliberation.

20. The report seeks approval to engage in discussions with Cambridge City Council and Huntingdonshire District Council regarding the potential extension of the original Shared Services Agreement for Legal, Building Control and ICT services beyond the expiry date of 30 September 2020. The option of not entering into these discussions is not considered to be appropriate; these discussions will not formally commit the Council and a formal decision would, in any event, be required to either extend, or to not extend, the range of services covered subject to shared arrangements.

21. The option of not renewing the Home Improvement Agency does exist but the benefits derived from the existing shared service agreement would not be realised. Alternative organisational capability would also need to be established.

Reason For Decision:

To enable the Cabinet to consider how the various shared services have delivered against the approved business plans for the year ended March 2019. The Annual Reports, at **Appendices A and B**, provide service specific details on the operation and performance of the shared services.

8. INVESTMENT STRATEGY STREAM 3 - INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS

Cabinet agreed the recommendations set out in the confidential report from the Interim Director of Finance.

Other Options Considered: As set out in the Confidential report.

Reason For Decision: As set out in the Confidential report.

9. INVESTMENT STRATEGY CORE STAFFING ESTABLISHMENT

Cabinet agreed the recommendations set out in the confidential report from the Interim Director of Finance.

Other Options Considered: As set out in the Confidential report.

Reason For Decision: As set out in the Confidential report.